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ABSTRACT

This teacher's guide is part of a series of three interactive books on tobacco, alcohol, and marijuana; three informational books containing parallel content; and three teacher guides designed to give students in grades five through eight practice in using the information and skills presented in the books. The guide provides teachers with a structured sequence of classroom activities to augment the information and skills presented in the interactive and informational books about marijuana. The goal of books and curriculum is to prevent marijuana use by preadolescents. A reading component suggests options for having students read the interactive and/or informational books about marijuana. Nine 45-minute lesson plans are included for students to participate in after having read the books. Each lesson consists of activities in which refusal skills are taught, modeled, and practiced. Homework assignments and review quizzes are included to help students internalize information and skills. Also included are a curriculum outline, curriculum alternatives, background information about marijuana, and a discussion of the cognitive-behavioral approach taken in the series. The appendix contains instructions for implementing a substance abuse unit covering all three topics of tobacco, alcohol, and marijuana, and suggests ways to integrate the reading components for alcohol and marijuana in the 9-day series of lesson plans. (NB)

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SAYING NO TO MARIJUANA

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Saying No to Marijuana

Nancy Abbey and Ellen Wagman

To accompany *Christy's Chance* and/or *Marijuana: The Real Story*

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Preface

Parents, schools and communities are continually seeking ways to reduce substance abuse by our country's youth. Each year 8,000 young people are killed in auto accidents involving alcohol. The use of alcohol and other drugs by youth often leads to problems with family and school and trouble with the law. The connection between tobacco use and health problems is becoming clearer every day.

In response, substance abuse prevention programs have been an important part of the public school's health curriculum since the 1960s. The approach of these programs, however, has changed with each decade. In the 1960s, programs were based on informing students about the possible consequences of substance abuse. In the 1970s, the focus was on helping students clarify their values concerning those substances. Today, the emphasis is on teaching skills and strategies for resisting pressures to use substances.

Regardless of the approach, the challenge is to find a method that personalizes the information in a way that youth can relate to their daily lives.

With this challenge in mind, Keneko Communications, Inc., Santa Cruz, CA was funded by the National Institutes of Health, Public Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services, to develop children's books in three areas: tobacco, alcohol and marijuana. In order to personalize the information, an interactive format would be used. This format would be evaluated in relation to a more traditional or informational format that would accompany the interactive books.

Three interactive books, *Danny's Dilemma* (tobacco), *Serena's Secret* (alcohol) and *Christy's Chance* (marijuana) and three informational books, *Tobacco: The Real Story, Alcohol: The Real Story* and *Marijuana: The Real Story,* containing parallel content, were written as part of Keneko Communications' substance abuse prevention project. In addition, the project called for the development of three teacher's guides, *Saying No to Tobacco, Saying No to Alcohol* and *Saying No to Marijuana,* to give students practice in using the information and skills presented in both types of books.

This curriculum and the accompanying books are the culmination of the efforts of a large number of talented people from different disciplines.

The evaluation research was conducted by Claire Brindis, DrPH, Institute for Health Policy Studies, University of California, San Francisco; Martin V. Covington, PhD, University of Cali-

fornia, Berkeley; and Nancy Adler, PhD, University of California, San Francisco, with assistance from Mary Hughes Stone and Patricia Brown.

Several specialists on substance abuse prevention contributed their expertise to the development of the books and curriculum. These people deserve special credit:

Robert N. Collins, EdD
Curriculum Coordinator/Project Director
Hutchinson Smoking Prevention Project
The Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
Seattle, WA

Robert S. Hirschman, PhD
Psychologist
Mount Sinai Medical Center
University of Wisconsin Medical School
Milwaukee, WI

Terrence C. Janicki, PhD
Staff Scientist
The Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
Seattle, WA

Linda McDaniel
National Teacher-Trainer
Growing Healthy Project
Van Buren Public Schools
Van Buren, AR

Kathleen Middleton
Director, California Office
National Center for Health Education
Concord, CA

Kay Nation
Program Director
Rocky Mountain Center for Health Promotion Education
Health Promotion and Education
Northglenn, CO

Carl J. Nickerson, EdD
President
Comprehensive Health Education Foundation
Seattle, WA

Nancy Renick
Director of School Health
National Center for Health Education
New York, NY

Brewster Robertson
Director of Marketing
Charlotte Drug Education Center
Charlotte, NC

Russell Sciandra
Senior Training Technician in Cancer Education
Cancer Information Service
Roswell Park Memorial Institute
Buffalo, NY

Sheila Faye Tarbet, PhD
Project Director
Center for Human Development
Lafayette, CA

Introduction

Curriculum Objectives

Saying No to Marijuana has been written to provide teachers with a structured sequence of classroom activities for fifth to eighth grade students to augment the information and skills presented in *Christy's Chance* and *Marijuana:The Real Story*. The goal of both the books and the curriculum is to prevent the use of tobacco by preadolescents.

Upon completion of the curriculum students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate different tactics for saying no to marijuana.
2. Explain reasons not to use marijuana.
3. Identify a peer support network to reaffirm the nonuse of marijuana.
4. State an intention not to use marijuana.

How to Use the Curriculum

Saying No to Marijuana begins with a reading component that suggests several options. You can choose to have your students read both the interactive book (*Christy's Chance*) and the informational book (*Marijuana: The Real Story*). Or you can choose to have your students read either book. (See "Reading Component Options" in the curriculum outline below.)

After students have read the book(s), they will participate in nine 45-minute lessons. Each lesson consists of 2-3 activities in which refusal skills are taught, modeled and practiced. Homework assignments and review quizzes are included to help students internalize the information and skills presented.

Curriculum Outline

Reading Component:

Flexible time: 1 to 5 days (depending on student ability and in-class or homework reading time).

Options:

1. Read both informational and interactive books in class. Conduct a feedback discussion after each book.
   Classtime: 1 to 2 days--informational book, 2 to 3 days--interactive book
2. Read both books as homework. Conduct class feedback discussions after each book.
   Classtime: 1 day--informational book, 1 day--interactive book
3. Read only one book (interactive or informational) in class or as homework and discuss.
   Classtime: 1 to 3 days

Lesson 1: Facts and Pressures

• Review Information	15 minutes
• Introduce Case Study	15 minutes
• Discuss Reasons Why	10 minutes
• Introduce Homework	5 minutes

Lesson 2: Saying No

• Discuss Homework	5 minutes
• Develop Peer Support Concept	10 minutes
• Identifying Clear No Statements	5 minutes
• Model Saying No	5 minutes
• Practice Saying No	20 minutes

Lesson 3: The Broken Record

• Define Broken Record	10 minutes
• Practice Broken Record	20 minutes
• Review Techniques	15 minutes

Lesson 4: Saying No Practice

• Review Clear No Statements	15 minutes
• Review Broken Record	15 minutes
• Reinforce Reasons Not to Use	15 minutes

Lesson 5: Fogging

• Discuss Homework #2	10 minutes
• Define Fogging	10 minutes
• Practice Fogging	25 minutes

Lesson 6: Delaying

• Define Delaying	10 minutes
• Practice Delaying	20 minutes
• Review	15 minutes

Lesson 7: Positive Self-Talk

• Define Negative Self-Talk	10 minutes
• Define Positive Self-Talk	10 minutes
• Practice Changing Negative Self-Talk	15 minutes
• Discuss Learning from Our Actions	10 minutes

Lesson 8: Saying No Role Plays

• Discuss Homework #3	5 minutes
• Introduce Role Play Assignment	15 minutes
• Prepare Role Plays	25 minutes

Lesson 9: Saying No Role Plays

• Prepare for Role Plays	10 minutes
• Give Role Plays	35 minutes

☐ Curriculum Alternatives

Two identical curriculum units for alcohol and tobacco with companion interactive and informational books are also available. *Saying No to Alcohol* is accompanied by *Serena's Secret* (interactive) and *Alcohol: The Real Story* (informational); *Saying No to Tobacco* is accompanied by *Danny's Dilemma* (interactive) and *Tobacco: The Real Story* (informational).

If you wish to implement a substance abuse unit covering all three topics, see the Appendix for suggestions of ways to integrate the reading components for alcohol and tobacco in the 9-day lesson plan.

Information About Marijuana

One of the first steps in the development of *Saying No to Marijuana, Christy's Chance* and *Marijuana: The Real Story* was the collection of information about marijuana. Facts about marijuana, possible consequences of its use, reasons why young people do and don't use marijuana and strategies for preventing use were collected with assistance from the content specialists cited in the preface.

This outline is included to provide you with background information.

General Information About Marijuana Use

1. Marijuana use is illegal.
2. The active ingredient in marijuana (THC) remains in the body for one month or longer after use.
3. Street marijuana is more potent (higher concentrations of THC) than ten years ago and than the marijuana used in federally sponsored research.

Possible Consequences of Marijuana Use

1. Marijuana makes the heart beat 50% faster, increases blood pressure, and decreases body temperature.
2. Marijuana impairs judgment and coordination and slows reaction time.
3. Marijuana use may result in young people getting into trouble with parents, school or the law.
4 Marijuana use may lead to a dependency on the effects.

Reasons Why Many Young Teens Don't Use Marijuana

1. Marijuana is illegal.
2. Peers do not use marijuana.
3. The effects are not comfortable.
4. Fear of getting into trouble with parents, school or the law.
5. Marijuana is expensive and not accessible.
6. Their parents have asked them not to.
7. They know it is dangerous because there is no way to know what other drugs are in the marijuana.

Reasons Why Some Young Teens Do Use Marijuana

1. Pressure from peers to use marijuana.
2. Curiosity about the effects.
3. Older siblings and/or parents use.
4. Belief or perception that marijuana intensifies and heightens experiences.
5. To defy authority.

Educational Approach

This curriculum has been strongly influenced by the work of Lewayne Gilchrist and Steven Paul Schinke, et al, at the University of Washington in Seattle. In reviewing the literature on prevention of teenage pregnancy, the authors were impressed with the positive results Gilchrist and Schinke experienced using what they termed a life skills or cognitive-behavioral approach to contraceptive education for adolescents.

This approach maintains that young people need both cognitive and behavioral skills in order to handle sexual and contraceptive issues maturely and responsibly. To develop the necessary cognitive skills, teens must have access to accurate information; be able to "personalize" this information in order to make it part of their lives; and be able to apply this knowledge to their personal decision-making processes. The necessary behavioral skills are communication skills, primarily the assertiveness needed to implement decisions.

The cognitive-behavioral approach also has been successfully used in substance abuse prevention programs by Schinke and Gilchrist as well as Prentz, Wills and Botvin. These programs are based on the premise that teaching young people basic life skills is the best deterrent to substance abuse. As basic life skills, all of these programs include assertiveness; three teach decision-making techniques as well as information related to substance abuse; two teach stress-reduction techniques; and one teaches general social skills. Evaluation of these programs has shown large positive effects on the reduction of one or more substance abuse behaviors.

Because of the proven effectiveness of the cognitive-behavioral approach in substance abuse prevention programs, the authors have drawn heavily on these programs in developing this curriculum. The following items are emphasized:

1. Information

Although information alone does not inhibit young people from initiating the use of substances, accurate information about the negative consequences of substance abuse may strengthen a resolve not to use. In order for information to be used in decision making, however, it must first be perceived as credible. Therefore, rather than having an adult authority figure (in this case, a teacher) present a lecture on the hazards of using these substances, students are asked to develop lists of reasons why most young people choose not to use marijuana and why some young people do. Since preadolescents' time-frame is immediate, stress is put on short-term rather than long-term effects.

If information is to be acted on, it must be accurately comprehended and stored. Thus, information is reinforced through frequent repetition of critical points. In addition, students' understanding of critical material is checked through periodic quizzes.

If information is to be used as the basis for decision making, students must internalize it. Therefore, students are asked to write out their own reasons for not using marijuana. They discuss these reasons with a support person; they practice stating their opinions by role playing what they would say to a friend who wanted them to use marijuana.

2. Refusal Skills

The greatest emphasis of *Saying No to Marijuana* is on teaching students a variety of communication skills. These skills can then be used to resist marijuana without alienating peers. No judgment is made about which of these responses is best. Rather, it is made clear to students that they should use the response they feel most comfortable with and think will be most effective with their peers.

The responses are:

No statements — responses that clearly say no but in a manner that doesn't jeopardize the relationship;

Broken record — responses that repeat the no statement without making excuses when the other person won't take no for an answer;

Delaying tactics — ways to avoid a situation or delay acting until the person has time to think without directly saying no;

Fogging responses — statements that use humor or tacit agreement when put downs or bullying is being used as presssure;

Positive self-talk — self-affirmations to bolster students' self-confidence in facing difficult situations.

All these skills are first explained and demonstrated by the teacher and then practiced by the students.

Reading Component

The Approach

The Reading Component of the curriculum is the backbone of the program. It can be approached in any number of ways depending upon the class time available, the ability level of students and the books selected. The curriculum activities are appropriate with the informational book, *Marijuana: The Real Story,* and/or the interactive book, *Christy's Chance.*

Options

- Read both books in class and conduct a feedback discussion after each book. Allow 3 to 4 class periods.
- Read both books as homework and conduct a class discussion after each book. Allow approximately 10 minutes both to introduce each book and for follow up discussions.
- Read only one book in class and discuss. Allow 1 class period for reading and discussion of *Marijuana:The Real Story.* Allow 2 class periods for reading and discussion of *Christy's Chance.*

Outline of Procedure

Procedure	Time	Material
• Introduction to the Unit	5 minutes	None
• Introduction to *Marijuana: The Real Story* (Reading time: approximately 30 min.)	5 minutes	Books for each student
• Introduction to the Interactive Process	5 minutes	None
• Introduction to *Christy's Chance* (Reading time: approximately 60 min.)	5 minutes	Books for each student
• Class Discussion	15 minutes for each book	

☐ Introduction to the Unit

Set ground rules for discussing matters related to marijuana use and abuse. It is important for you to be sensitive to the fact that students may have very personal experiences that relate to the subject matter and situations presented. Tell students they should avoid using specific names and incidents in class.

You can suggest that personal concerns be discussed individually with the teacher or with the school nurse or counselor. It is important to show an interest in students' individual problems and concerns. Be ready to make the appropriate referrals when necessary.

1. Explain to students that they are about to start a unit that will focus on marijuana. The purpose of this unit is to help students develop the conviction and skills to say no. They will be reading a book that gives information about marijuana and explains the consequences of using it. It will also describe the pressures on young people to use marijuana and why it can be hard to say no.

   Students will then participate in a series of lessons to develop the skills to say no. The lessons will discuss ways to say no. It is hoped that by practicing those skills, students will be able to avoid marijuana in the future even though other people their age may be using it.

☐ Introduction to *Marijuana: The Real Story*

2. The book you are going to read is about marijuana. It was written to give you some facts about marijuana so you can understand why using it isn't good for your health. It also talks about why some young people use marijuana and why some other young people decide not to try it.

   Read the book and think about all the reasons for not using marijuana. Tomorrow we'll make a class list of all those reasons and then talk about why some young teens use marijuana anyway.

☐ Introduction to the Interactive Process

3. The book you are going to read is about Christy. As you read you will come to a point in the story where the character has to make a decision about whether or not to use marijuana. At that point you will decide what choice the character makes. The book tells you which page to turn to to continue the story based on your decision.

   Read through the story, making the decisions and turning to the page given for your choice. When you finish, it's important that you go back and read the story again making different decisions to see how they affect what happens to Christy.

☐ Introduction to *Christy's Chance*

4. Christy is spending the summer with her cousin Heather at Harmony Lake. She is having a good time swimming, sunbathing and getting acquainted with Heather's friends.

   In her hometown where Christy has lots of friends, she's been able to avoid situations that might involve alcohol or other drugs. At Harmony Lake where she's trying to fit in, Christy will feel some strong pressure from her new friends to use marijuana. She may find it difficult to resist.

   Read and see what happens as Christy makes decisions about using marijuana. Tomorrow we'll talk about the story and the reasons why Christy shouldn't start using marijuana.

☐ Class Discussion

5. Ask students if they liked reading the book. Ask what they liked best and what they liked least. If time allows, give students the opportunity to discuss their experience in reading the book.

Lesson 1: Facts and Pressures

Synopsis

Lesson 1 reinforces information about the consequences of marijuana use found in the book students have read. This information is introduced by having students determine why the character shouldn't use marijuana. The homework assignment personalizes the information to their own lives.

Preparation

- Prepare *Reasons Why Chart* on butcher paper (to be saved for later lessons) as modeled on p. 14.
- Review p. 4 for suggested list.
- Make copies of *Facts and Pressures Case Study* and *Homework #1* for each student.

Outline of Procedure

Procedure	Time	Material
• Review Information	15 minutes	*Reasons Why Chart*
• Introduce Case Study	15 minutes	*Facts and Pressures Case Study*
• Discuss Reasons Why	10 minutes	None
• Introduce Homework	5 minutes	*Homework #1*

☐ Review Information — Time: 15 minutes ☐

1. Suggest to students that we hear so much about the problem of teens and marijuana that we sometimes imagine "everyone is doing it." The truth is, many young teens don't use marijuana and there are many reasons why they don't.
2. Refer to chart, *Reasons Why Many Young Teens Don't Use Marijuana*. Ask students to think of all the reasons they remember from the book for not using marijuana. List these on the chart. Ask for any others they can think of from their own experience. Add any important factors they miss.
3. When the list seems complete, tell students that despite all these reasons, some young people do use marijuana. Ask them for all the reasons they can remember from the book.
4. On the chart, *Reasons Why Some Young Teens Do Use Marijuana*, list all their reasons, adding any important factors they miss.
5. Refer to the lists and emphasize the number of good reasons not to use marijuana. However, many of the reasons why some young people use marijuana feel like strong pressures and can override the greater reasons not to use. Suggest that even when people know they don't want to use marijuana they may still use it because they feel pressured by others or themselves and don't stop to think before they act. Remind students that if they ever feel pressure to use marijuana they should stop and remember all the important reasons they've learned for not using it.

☐ Introduce *Case Study* — Time: 15 minutes ☐

6. Explain to students that in this unit they'll be reading case studies about a young woman named Christy and situations in which she feels pressure to use marijuana. After reading this case study, they will decide which factors from their list Christy should consider.
   Note: If students have read *Christy's Chance*, you may wish to explain that the case studies are based on situations in the book.
7. Distribute *Case Study* and *Worksheets*. Have students read the story or read it to them. When the story's been read, have the class state the problem in the situation.
8. Divide students into groups of 4-5. Ask them to discuss which reasons from the class list, *Reasons Why Many Young Teens Don't Use Marijuana*, they think will have the strongest influence on Christy's decision. They should agree on and list 3 reasons why Christy shouldn't use marijuana, and 2 pressures they think will have the strongest influence on her to try it. They should be prepared to explain their choices. Give groups 5-7 minutes.

Discuss Reasons Why — Time: 10 minutes

9. Reconvene the class. Ask students to list the reasons they gave for Christy's not using marijuana. As they state their reasons, make a check mark beside the corresponding reason on the class list. Affirm the importance of these reasons.
10. Next, have students list the pressures that are influencing Christy to use marijuana. Discuss which pressures seem the strongest. Ask students why this might be so.
11. Ask students what they think Christy should do; what they think a typical teen might do. If there's a difference, ask them for some reasons why teens may not do what they should.
12. Point out that people sometimes don't do what they think they should because they feel pressured by friends. Or, they may feel pressure to "go along with" their friends to avoid seeming different. This pressure to act in a certain way either because friends are encouraging you to do so or because you think friends want you to act that way is called peer pressure. Point out how Christy was affected by peer pressure.

Introduce Homework — Time: 5 minutes

13. Explain to students that their friends can also help them resist pressures they may feel to use marijuana. Explain that you are giving them a homework assignment to do with a friend so that they can get support for their decision not to use marijuana.
14. Explain that the friend can be a student in this class or a friend, sibling, parent or other relative outside class. Discuss the concept of a signed contract to document an agreement between two parties. In this case, the agreement is between the student and his/her friend to give and accept support to resist using marijuana.

Lesson Summary

Point out that most adults agree that it's not wise for young people to use marijuana and that they give many of the same reasons that are listed on the chart. Because it can be hard for young people to avoid using marijuana, this unit will stress information about the health hazards of marijuana and teach skills for resisting the pressures to use.

Chart ***Reasons Why***

Reasons why many young teens don't use marijuana.

Reasons why some young teens do use marijuana.

Facts and Pressures — *Case Study*

Christy is spending the summer at Harmony Lake with her cousin Heather's family. There is a lot of excitement in the air. *Last Chance Lake* will begin filming next week and Christy has met a boy named Eric, whom she really likes.

Heather and Christy have gone to the rec hall for Teen Night where they meet Andrew and Eric. The boys talk them into going out to Hawk's Point even though the girls aren't supposed to drive with anyone without permission.

At Hawk's Point, Christy gets out of the car and heads for a big boulder overlooking the lake. A few minutes later she's joined by Eric who sits next to her. They talk for awhile. Suddenly, Eric pulls something from his pocket. "You want to share this with me?" It was the first time Christy had seen a joint.

"It's pretty good for local weed," Eric said.

"Local weed?"

"Yeah. They grow it in the hills around here." Eric lit the cigarette and inhaled deeply. He held it out to her.

Christy took it awkwardly. Now what do I do? she wondered. I probably won't turn into a green monster or anything if I try it. And if I don't he'll think I'm chicken and boring. But what if something bad happens?

"Hey...haven't you smoked pot before?" Eric was staring at her.

"Uh...well...no, actually." This is so embarrassing, she thought.

"It's easy. Go on. You'll like it." He gave her an encouraging smile.

He's really cute, she thought. And he does seem to like me.

"C'mon Christy. You're not chicken are you?"

Facts and Pressures (Continued) — *Case Study*

Now, in small groups, answer the following questions:

Which 3 reasons from the class list should Christy consider in making her decision about the marijuana?

1. _____

_____

2. _____

_____

3. _____

_____

Which 2 pressures might influence her to accept the marijuana?

1. _____

_____

2. _____

_____

Reasons Why — *Homework #1*

Read the case study together, discuss your worksheet and complete the sentence below. Have your friend sign the page before you return it to class.

If I were Christy I wouldn't use marijuana because _____

_____

_____

My friend thinks I shouldn't use marijuana because _____

_____

_____

- -

My friend, _____, and I have read and discussed this worksheet.
(friend's name)
He/she has promised to help me resist the pressure to use marijuana.

_____ _____
Friend's signature Student's signature

Lesson 2: Saying No

Synopsis

Lesson 2 addresses the issue of peer support as a means of avoiding marijuana use and to help friends avoid marijuana use. The concept of making clear no statements is introduced and modeled. Time is allowed for students to practice.

Preparation

- Select three students to read the *Model Role Play* with you and give them time to practice reading their parts.
- Make copies of the *Saying No Case Study* and *Incomplete Role Play* for each student, and four copies of the *Model Role Play*.

Outline of Procedure

Procedure	Time	Material
• Discuss Homework	5 minutes	Completed *Homework #1*
• Develop Peer Support Concept	10 minutes	None
• Identifying Clear No Statements	5 minutes	*Case Study*
• Model Saying No	5 minutes	*Model Role Play*
• Practice Saying No	20 minutes	*Incomplete Role Play*

☐ Discuss Homework — Time: 5 minutes ☐

1. Have students take out *Homework #1*. Ask how many were able to discuss it with a friend. Ask them to share ideas from their friends that were helpful.
2. Ask for volunteers to read their sentences "If I were..." to the class.

☐ Develop Peer Support Concept — Time: 10 minutes ☐

3. Remind students that peer pressure isn't always negative. The homework assignment they did with a friend is an example of positive peer support. The friend who helped them with the homework assignment can influence them not to use substances. They, in turn, can give peer support to others for not using marijuana.
4. Ask students to imagine that they are with their best friend and he/she is about to use marijuana. What could they say to persuade their friend not to use marijuana? Tell students to stop and think before they respond. Ask them to raise their hands when they have an answer. They can refer to the chart of *Reasons Why Many Young Teens Don't Use Marijuana. . .*"
5. Have as many students as possible tell the class what they would say to their friend. Remind them to use "I" messages. Give an example: "I don't think we should use marijuana because..." "Let's go play basketball. I think it's better for our health."
6. Suggest that it's important for students to discuss this unit with their parents and/or other important adults in their lives since these adults may also be able to support them in their decisions not to use marijuana. Acknowledge that use of this substance may be a problem in some homes. When it is, young people may find it helpful to discuss it with a counselor at school or at a local agency that has expertise in handling such problems. Assure them that you can give them information about resources available in their community.

☐ Identifying Clear No Statements — Time: 5 minutes ☐

7. Remind students that in the previous lesson they said saying no could be difficult. But, they have all practiced saying no many times. They probably started practicing saying no when they were about two years old. By now they may be quite good at it. Tell them you're going to give them a chance to show how well they can say no.
8. Read *Case Study: Saying No.* Point out that Christy is having difficulty saying no and ask individual students to model how they'd say no if they were Christy.
9. Point out that there are many ways of saying no: e.g. soft nos, strong nos, mean nos, unsure nos, etc. Explain that the skill you want students to learn is how to say no in

a convincing way; a way that lets the person know you mean it, but does not hurt your friendship. Emphasize that a clear no response follows four guidelines:

- No is clearly stated.
- The voice is firm and friendly.
- An "I" statement is used.
- A different activity is suggested.

☐ Model Saying No — Time: 5 minutes ☐

10. Have three students read the *Model Role Play* of Christy saying no with you playing the part of Christy to model assertive voice and posture.
11. When finished, ask the students who played Heather, Eric and Andrew if they felt Christy really meant no or if she could have been talked into going to Hawk's Point? Did they still want to be her friend after she said no?
12. Ask the class to point out what Christy said and did to maintain the friendship, while clearly saying no. Discuss Christy's voice, posture, clear statement and friendly attitude. Point out that in saying no to a situation like this, it's very helpful to suggest an alternative activity as Christy did.

☐ Practice Saying No — Time: 20 minutes ☐

13. Distribute *Incomplete Role Play*. Have students finish the script following the four guidelines.
14. Have volunteers read their scripts. Have class comment on their responses, tone of voice, facial expression and posture. Ask the class if:

    - They believe the person means no.
    - They would feel offended by the response.
    - The response followed the guidelines.

Point out to them that by saying no and suggesting an alternative to situations where marijuana may be used, they may encourage other people to say no, too. In that way, they'll be providing positive peer support.

Lesson Summary

Remind students that they are learning to say no to requests or pressure from friends to do things they don't feel they should do. The skills are not to teach them how to say no to their parents, teachers and other adults unless that adult is asking them to do something that would be harmful to their well being. Tell them that in the next lesson they will learn to say no to a peer who won't take no for an answer.

Supplemental Activity

Have students role play in groups of three, two people urging a third person to go to a party where there will be marijuana. They should take turns playing the role of the person saying no. Tell them you will signal when it's time to rotate roles. Remind them to:

- Say no clearly.
- Use a friendly, firm voice.
- Use an "I" statement.
- Suggest a different activity.

Saying No — *Case Study*

Christy is spending the summer at Harmony Lake with her cousin Heather. It's going to be a wonderful summer full of rowing, swimming, lying on the beach and meeting boys. In fact, Christy has already met Eric Brodsky and Heather really likes Andrew Vitale.

On Friday night, Heather and Christy go to the rec hall for Teen Night. In the parking lot they meet Andrew and Eric.

"Heather! Hi, babe!" said Andrew. "Hi, Christy. You want to go out with us to Hawk's Point? Tom will drive."

The girls weren't supposed to drive with anyone without permission. Christy looked at Heather. Heather looked confused.

I'll bet she really wants to go, Christy thought. I *can't* let her go without me. What if Aunt Sylvia and Uncle Roger find out? And what if they smoke marijuana out there?

"If we don't stay too long," Heather answered.

"Okay, Christy?"

Eric put his arm around Christy's shoulder. "How about it, Christy? We'll have a nice time out there."

"I don't know," said Christy. "It's off limits for us."

"Please, Christy," begged Heather.

"We won't stay long," Andrew promised.

Eric looked down at Christy and smiled.

Oh shoot, thought Christy. What should I do?

Saying No — *Model Role Play*

Moderator: Christy is spending the summer at Harmony Lake with her cousin Heather. It's going to be a wonderful summer full of rowing, swimming, lying on the beach and meeting boys. In fact, Christy has already met Eric Brodsky and Heather really likes Andrew Vitale. On Friday night, Heather and Christy go to the rec hall for Teen Night where they meet Andrew and Eric.

Eric: You want to go out with us to Hawk's Point? Tom will drive.

Moderator: The girls weren't supposed to drive with anyone without permission. Christy looked at Heather. Heather looked confused. I'll bet she really wants to go, Christy thought. I *can't* let her go without me. But what if Aunt Sylvia and Uncle Roger find out? And what if they smoke marijuana?

Heather: If we don't stay too long...Okay Christy?

Andrew: How about it, Christy?

Christy: I think I'd better not. Thanks for the offer but Hawk's Point is off limits for me.

Heather: Please, Christy, I really want to go. It'll be fun.

Eric: C'mon, Christy. It's a drag in there.

Christy: No thanks, Eric. I'm going to stay here.

Andrew: Hey, Christy, there's nothing to do here.

Christy: We can play pool. I'll bet I can beat all of you.

Heather: C'mon, Christy. I really want to go.

Christy: I just don't want to, guys. I'd be in big trouble if I got caught out there.

Eric: You won't get caught.

Christy: Sorry. I'll see you all later. If you change your mind, I'll be at the pool table.

Saying No — *Incomplete Role Play*

On Friday night, Heather and Christy go to the rec hall and spot Andrew and Eric in the parking lot. Eric suggests they all drive out to Hawk's Point, but the girls aren't supposed to drive with anyone without permission. Christy looked at Heather. Heather looked confused. Christy thought, I'll bet she really wants to go. I *can't* let her go without me. But what if Aunt Sylvia and Uncle Roger find out? And what if they smoke marijuana?

Heather: If we don't stay too long...Okay Christy?

Andrew: How about it, Christy?

Christy: **Maybe, but I don't know if we should.**

Heather: Please, Christy, I really want to go. It'll be fun.

Eric: C'mon, Christy. It's a drag in there.

Christy: **(clear no statement)**

Andrew: Hey, Christy, there's nothing to do here.

Christy:

Heather: C'mon, Christy, I really want to go.

Eric: You won't get caught.

Christy:

Remember to:

1. Make a clear no statement.
2. Use a friendly, firm voice.
3. Make an "I" statement.
4. Suggest a different activity.

Lesson 3: The Broken Record

Synopsis

Lesson 3 introduces the concept of the broken record communication technique. Students will see the technique modeled and have an opportunity to practice using it.

Preparation

- Select a student to read the *Model Role Play* with you and give them time to practice reading their role.
- Make two copies of the *Model Role Play* and copies of the *Quiz* for each student.
- Prepare a chart on butcher paper (to be saved for Lessons 8 and 9) with four guidelines for saying no.

Outline of Procedure

Procedure	Time	Material
• Define Broken Record	10 minutes	*Model Role Play*
• Practice Broken Record	20 minutes	None
• Review Techniques	15 minutes	*Quiz*

☐ Define Broken Record — Time: 10 minutes ☐

1. Explain to students that sometimes when friends urge us to use marijuana they won't take a simple no for an answer. When that happens, an effective way to handle the situation is to use a technique called "broken record." Ask students if they've ever heard a record get stuck so that one phrase plays over and over. The broken record communication technique is a way of saying no patterned after a stuck record. It involves repeating a simple, honest refusal without hostility or excuse. For example: "No, I never lend my bike to anyone." "No, I can't do that." "No, I don't use marijuana."
2. Explain to students that a broken record response:
   - Repeats no.
   - Makes an "I statement," which means using I and stating what you will or won't do.
   - Is repeated until you can end the conversation.
3. Have a student read the sample *Model Role Play* with you. Have them take the part of the person making the request while you model a broken record response. Ask the class to identify the "I statement" and describe your tone of voice, posture and facial expression. Ask if they would feel offended by the responses.
4. Give students an example of another situation in which a friend might not take no for an answer, i.e., wanting you to go to a party where marijuana may be used. Have the class suggest a good clear no statement; i.e., "No thanks, I don't want to go to the party," or "No thanks, I've decided not to go to the party."
5. Next, do several broken record role plays by acting the part of a friend giving the invitation and having different students use the no statement to refuse. Beg, plead, flatter, threaten to get them to change their minds. Model this with several students or until class seems comfortable with the role play.

☐ Practice Broken Record — Time: 20 minutes ☐

6. Ask the class to name some favors a friend or classmate might ask of them that they might want to refuse. Suggest examples such as copying answers on a test, sharing lunch, etc. List their examples on the board.
7. Have students form dyads with one person designated A and the other B. Explain that they'll take turns practicing refusing a request with a broken record response.
8. Have student A choose a request from the list. Student B then tries to pressure him/her into that favor (2-3 minutes). Remind the pressuring student to use flattery, threats, whining, etc.
9. Call time and have dyads reverse roles.

10. When students have had a chance to be in both roles, bring the class back together and discuss how they felt giving a no answer. Ask students:
    - Were there responses from your partner that made you more likely to change your mind? Why?
    - How did it feel to firmly stand your ground?
    - Once you've made a decision, is standing your own ground something you do easily?
11. Remind students that they can use this method to say no to other requests from friends that they don't want to do. Suggest that the good feeling they get from saying no is the feeling of power — power to control their lives instead of giving in to friends.

☐ Review Techniques — Time: 15 minutes ☐

12. Review saying no and broken record techniques with the class.
13. Distribute *Quiz*. Allow 5-7 minutes for students to complete.
14. Discuss each statement with students and discuss why it does or does not meet the guidelines for a clear saying no statement.

    - No is clearly stated.
    - The voice is firm and friendly (message is firm and friendly).
    - An "I" statement is used.
    - A different activity is suggested.

☐ Lesson Summary

Conclude by reminding students that today they practiced saying no in a way that tells a person they mean no without losing a friendship. The broken record can be used with friends who won't take a simple no for an answer. Tell students they did very well in their role plays and that they will have more practice saying no in the next lesson.

☐ Broken Record — *Model Role Play* ☐

Tom: Hey Ben, you want to try some of this joint?

Ben: No, thanks.

Tom: Aw c'mon Ben. You'll like it..

Ben: No thanks. I've decided not to use marijuana.

Tom: What's the matter? You afraid you'll become addicted?

Ben: Could be, so I've decided not to use marijuana.

Tom: Aw, you're just chicken.

Ben: No, I've just decided not to use marijuana.

Tom: Man, I give up on you!

Quiz

Put a check mark beside statements that follow the guidelines for saying no.

_____1. No, you're always asking me for money and you don't pay it back.

_____2. Well, I don't know. Probably not.

_____3. No thanks. I don't want to go to that party. Why don't you come over to my house instead?

_____4. Why don't you go ask someone else?

_____5. No, I've decided I don't want to use marijuana. It's not good for my health.

Lesson 4: Saying No Practice

Synopsis

Lesson 4 reviews saying no techniques and reinforces the commitment not to use marijuana.

Preparation

- Prepare a list of requests to use in round robin role plays.
- Make copies of *Homework #2* for each student.

Outline of Procedure

Procedure	Time	Material
• Review Clear No Statements	15 minutes	None
• Review Broken Record	15 minutes	None
• Reinforce Reasons Not to Use	15 minutes	*Homework #2*

☐ Review Clear No Statements — Time: 15 minutes ☐

1. Remind students that in the last two lessons they practiced saying no to friends who wanted them to do something they felt they shouldn't do.
2. Review the four guidelines for saying no. Do a round robin role play by calling on students and asking them to respond with a clear no statement to requests you make.
   You may use requests such as the following:
   "Let me borrow your bike."
   "Hey, let's cut school tomorrow and go have some fun."
   "Be a friend and let me copy your homework."
   "Tell my mom we were at the library."
   "Want to try some of my dad's vodka?"
   "I found a pack of cigarettes. Let's go over to the vacant lot and smoke."
   "How about lending me a dollar?"
   "Want to go over to Andy's party with me after school? His parents are out of town."
   Remind them to suggest an alternative activity when it's appropriate.

☐ Review Broken Record — Time: 15 minutes ☐

3. Ask students to explain how the broken record response is different from just saying no. They should understand that broken record is a clear no statement given repeatedly in response to someone who won't take no for an answer.
4. Ask for a situation where a broken record response would be appropriate. Using their suggestion, role play a number of times by making this request of several students. For example:
   Teacher: "How about lending me your bike?"
   "Aw, c'mon, be a friend."
   "I won't be your friend if you don't."
   "You're selfish."
   "You've always let me ride it before."
   "I just need it to ride down to the store."
   "I'll be right back."
   "My bike's broken and I can't get to the store unless you let me use yours."
   "I won't let you see my new video."
   "Please, I'll give you $.50."
   Etc.
5. When students have finished, discuss each statement and why it *is* or *isn't* a clear "saying no" statement.

6. Remind students that by saying no in a clear, friendly way, they will be:

   - doing what's best for their own well being;
   - giving peer support to a friend to help them avoid using marijuana;
   - building an honest friendship in which they can be themselves and not give in to peer pressure.

☐ Reinforce Reasons Not to Use Marijuana — Time: 15 minutes ☐

7. Tell students that this homework assignment will give them a review of reasons for not using marijuana and an opportunity to give and be given peer support for not using it.
8. Distribute *Homework #2* and go over directions. Tell students they'll have some class time to do the first part of the assignment. Ask students to form groups of 2-3.
9. When they've finished, ask for volunteers to read the reason that is most important to them. Ask students not to duplicate what others have said.
10. Have students take their worksheets home to discuss with a friend or family member. Ask them to return the signed worksheets to class.

☐ Lesson Summary

Point out to students how important it is to remember these reasons if they are ever in a situation where they feel pressured to use marijuana. These reasons can help them use the skills they've learned for saying no.

☐ *Homework #2* — *My Reasons* ☐

Now that you know the facts about marijuana, pretend a friend is encouraging you to try marijuana. You know it is not a good idea. Write three sentences explaining why you don't want to use marijuana.

I don't think I should use marijuana because _____

_____

I don't think I should use marijuana because _____

_____

I don't think I should use marijuana because _____

_____

- - - -

Lesson 5: Fogging

Synopsis

Lesson 5 introduces a third communication technique, fogging. The technique is modeled and then practiced by the students.

Preparation

- Prepare a chart on butcher paper (to be saved for Lessons 8 and 9) that lists the fogging words.
- Make copies of *Role Plays A* and *B* for each student.

Outline of Procedure

Procedure	Time	Material
• Discuss *Homework #2*	10 minutes	Completed Homework
• Define Fogging	10 minutes	Fogging Words on Butcher Paper
• Practice Fogging	25 minutes	*Role Plays A* and *B*

☐ Discuss *Homework #2* — Time: 10 minutes ☐

1. Remind students of the assignment to discuss the "My Reasons" worksheet with a friend.
2. Have several students read the "I don't think I should..." statement.
3. Ask for ideas from friends about reasons not to use marijuana. Encourage students to talk to their friends about what they're learning in class and to continue to support each other in avoiding substance use. Remind them to talk to their parents or other significant adults who can offer them guidance and support.

☐ Define Fogging — Time: 10 minutes ☐

4. Explain to students that another way to say no is to use "fogging." Fogging can be used in response to putdowns or ridicule used to convince another person to do something he/she may not want to do. Explain that fogging uses agreement and humor—especially joking about yourself—to make it difficult for someone to keep pressuring.
5. Tell students there are eight phrases they can use. Post the Fogging Words chart (save for Lessons 8 and 9).

Fogging Words

1. yes
2. could be
3. no
4. whatever
5. maybe
6. wow
7. I'll have to think about that
8. sorry about that

6. To demonstrate the use of fogging, ask several students to challenge you with "What's the matter, are you chicken?" Respond to each challenge with a different fogging statement: "Maybe." "I'll have to think about that." "Could be." etc. Make it clear that a fogging response does not threaten or make fun of the other person. Its purpose is to diffuse the situation without antagonizing an aggressor.

Practice Fogging — Time: 25 minutes

7. To give the students practice, have them use the eight phrases to respond to bullying statements you make as you role play an aggressive bully:

   "Hey, stupid, you sure are dumb."

   "What a stupid looking outfit you're wearing!"

   "You're a real baby."

   "That's a dumb thing to do."

   "Look where you're going, stupid!"

   "You're too dumb to tie your shoes."

   "You're a runt!"

   etc.

8. Tell students they'll have more practice using fogging by working in triads to complete role plays using fogging responses. Divide the class into triads. Give half the triads *Role Play A* and half *Role Play B.*
9. Have students work in their triad to complete the role plays using fogging responses. Tell them they can use the phrases on the list or any others they think would be appropriate. However, they should remember that their responses should not make the other person angry. The purpose is to get out of the situation gracefully.
10. Reconvene class and ask some of the triads to model their completed role play. After each triad, ask students to evaluate whether the fogging statements would get the person out of the situation or make it worse.

☐ Lesson Summary

Suggest to students that some of them will find fogging easy and comfortable to use. Others will find fogging difficult. They may be better at using the broken record tactic. Remind them that they have learned a lot in the past few days that can help them resist pressure to use marijuana. In the next lesson, they'll learn a skill that can help them build their confidence.

☐ Supplemental Activity

Working in groups of 5-6, have students take turns making putdown, bullying statements to other members of the group. The other students will then respond with a fogging statement.

Have students develop role plays depicting relevant situations where fogging might be used as a response.

☐ Fogging — *Role Play A* ☐

Christy and Heather have gone to Hawk's Point with Eric and Andrew. Christy has left the rest of the group and is sitting on a boulder overlooking the lake where Eric joins her. They talk for awhile and then Eric pulls something out of his pocket. It was the first time Christy had seen a joint.

Eric: You want to share this with me?

Christy: **What is it?**

Eric: It's pot, you dummy. As if you didn't know.

Christy:

Eric: Yeah. Pretty good for local weed, too.

Christy:

Eric: C'mon Christy, you're acting like a real amateur. Haven't you ever smoked pot?

Christy:

Eric: It's easy. Here, I know you'll like it.

Christy:

Eric: There's nothing to worry about so don't be a chicken.

Christy:

☐ Fogging — *Role Play B* ☐

Christy and Heather have been invited to Hawk's Point by Eric and Andrew. There's been some talk about smoking pot. Christy wants to spend more time with Eric but this particular situation sounds too risky.

Eric: Okay, girls. Let's go.

Christy: **You going, Heather?**

Heather: Sure, why not?

Christy: **Well, it doesn't sound like such a great idea to me.**

Heather: Oh, come on, Christy. What could happen?

Eric: It'll be a lot of fun, Christy.

Christy:

Heather: C'mon, Chris, don't spoil it for everybody.

Christy:

Eric: You don't think Andrew and I are corrupting you, do you?

Christy:

Heather: Christy, I just don't believe this.

Eric: Come on, Heather, we've fooled around long enough.

Christy:

Heather: And I thought it was going to be a great summer with you here. What a joke.

Christy:

Lesson 6: Delaying

Synopsis

Lesson 6 introduces the delaying technique. Students are given an opportunity to practice using delay tactics in role play situations. A short quiz at the end of the lesson reviews the four communication techniques taught.

Preparation

- Select two students to read the *Model Role Play* with you and give them time to practice reading their role.
- Make two copies of the *Model Role Play* and enough copies of *Role Plays A* and *B* so half of the students have *A* and half have *B*.
- Prepare a butcher paper chart (to be saved for Lessons 8 and 9) that lists delay tactics. See p. 49 for examples.

Outline of Procedure

Procedure	Time	Material
• Define Delaying	10 minutes	*Model Role Play* and *Chart of Delay Tactics*
• Practice Delaying	20 minutes	*Role Plays A* and *B*
• Review	15 minutes	*Quiz*

☐ Define Delaying — Time: 10 minutes ☐

1. Review the saying no skills practiced yesterday. Explain to students that another way to say no to using marijuana is not to get into situations where it's being used. That may mean not hanging out with kids who use marijuana or not going to parties where there's a lot of pressure to use it. However, there are times when people get into situations they didn't expect or where the pressure to use marijuana is strong. For many reasons, it's better just to say no. But people often feel confused and unsure about how to say no and need time to think of what to do. Otherwise they might impulsively make a poor decision. Saying no may also take more courage than he or she feels they have at the moment. In such cases a person might try "delaying."
2. Describe delaying as a way to postpone saying no. Sooner or later they will have to say no, but it can be used to get out of a situation when they don't have the courage to say no or they need time to figure out how to say no. People don't always have to say no—they can sometimes "delay" the issue so that others won't even notice. They can make excuses, "fake it," pretend they have something else to do—whatever they can do to give themselves time to think about how to say no or to get out of the situation.
3. Enact the Model Role Play. Take the part of Christy's thoughts and stand behind the person playing her as you play that role.
4. Point out that Christy didn't say no, but she didn't smoke the marijuana either. Ask them to identify what she did to delay.
5. Explain again that a delay tactic is used in order to get time to think so impulsive actions are avoided. It can also be used to get out of a situation when it might be hard to say no. Delaying usually involves making an excuse to get away from the situation. In the role play, Christy used a delaying tactic. She may find that the next time Randy pressures her to use marijuana, she'll have to have the courage to be honest.
6. Post the *Delay Tactics Chart.* Read the list and suggest how those tactics might be used to avoid using marijuana. Ask students to imagine themselves in Christy's situation. Using the chart, what other tactics could she use? Encourage them to think of tactics to add to the chart.

☐ Practice Delaying — Time: 10 minutes ☐

7. Tell students the next part of this activity will give them practice using delay tactics.
8. Divide the class into groups of 4-5. Assign each group one of the role plays and have them complete it. Remind them to use the role play you just did as a model.
9. Reconvene class and have the groups share their role plays as time allows. Add any new tactics to the list.
10. Ask students to identify those tactics they feel would work and those that wouldn't. Have them discuss the pros and cons of using delay tactics.
11. Delaying is one way to avoid using marijuana. It may be used to give young teens time to think so they won't act impulsively. It can also be used as a means of getting out of a situation without directly saying no. This can include delaying a response, making an excuse, leaving, or seeming to use marijuana, when in fact avoiding it. Stress that while delaying is not ultimately the best tactic, it can sometimes be a very important one.

☐ Review — Time: 15 minutes ☐

12. Briefly review the four techniques with the class: saying no, broken record, delaying and fogging.
13. Distribute *Quiz*. Allow 5-7 minutes for students to complete.
14. Ask students to read some of their tactics to the class. Discuss:
    a. Was the tactic appropriate for the situation? Would it work?
    b. Would they feel comfortable doing it?

☐ Lesson Summary

Remind students that they now have four different techniques for resisting pressure to use marijuana. Suggest that they practice using these skills any time they feel pressure from peers to do something they don't feel comfortable doing.

☐ Delaying — *Model Role Play* ☐

Christy and Steve are at a party on Harmony Lake. There are lots of people there. Some of them Christy has never met before. A boy named Randy sits down beside her and they talk. Later Randy takes a slim cigarette from his pocket and lights it. He inhales and offers it to Christy.

Randy: You use pot?

Christy's thoughts: Oh, no. Here we go. What do I say so I don't look like a baby?

Christy: Not now, thanks.

Randy: It's really great stuff. You should try it.

Christy's thoughts: He might just go off and find someone else to smoke with!

Christy: My throat feels really sore. I'll pass.

Randy: Hey, Mark. Want some of this?

Mark: Sure thing.

Christy's thoughts: I just don't want to start. People act so funny when they're stoned.

Mark: Here, Christy. It's great stuff!

Christy: (Takes the joint and passes it to Randy.) How you doing Mark? You playing ball this summer?

Randy: Don't ask him about baseball. He blew the last game. (Takes the joint.) Here Christy.

Christy: (Takes the joint and passes it to Mark.) What happened, Mark?

Mark: Don't listen to him. I played a great game.

Randy: Great game! Are you kidding?

Christy's thoughts: I should have the courage to say no, but this seems to work.

☐ Delaying — *Role Play A* ☐

Christy and her cousin Heather have been invited to take a ride to Hawk's Point with two boys they like, Eric and Andrew. Heather wants to go but Christy knows they shouldn't.

Heather: Come on, Christy. Let's go.

Christy's thoughts: I need time to think. Maybe I should say I have to go to the bathroom. If Heather goes with me we can talk.

Christy: (delaying)

Heather: Christy! They may just go without us.

Eric: Let's go.

Christy's thoughts: Aunt Sylvia and Uncle Roger will be furious if they find out. But Eric is so cute and it might be my chance to get him to like me.

Christy: (delaying)

Andrew's thoughts: Christy is right. I want them to come with us. But I don't want to get them in trouble.

Heather: It'll be so much fun. Let's go.

Christy's thoughts: She really wants to go so much. She'll be mad at me if I say no. What can I do? What can I say?

Eric: What's the matter, Christy? You afraid to have a little fun?

Finish the role play to show what Christy thinks and how she delays. Have Eric and Heather pressure her to go. Show how Andrew gives her peer support to say no.

☐ Delaying — *Role Play B* ☐

Christy, Heather, Andrew and Eric are sitting by Harmony Lake talking. Eric lights a joint and passes it to Andrew.

Andrew: Great stuff, Eric. Here, Heather.

Christy's thoughts: They'll pass it to me and then what do I do!

Heather: Here, Eric. Christy doesn't smoke.

Christy's thoughts: Thanks a lot, Heather!

Eric: But Christy, you're missing out on a great experience. Here--just take a little puff.

Christy: (delaying)

Heather's thoughts: That was really dumb of me. Now he'll really put on the pressure.

Eric: Don't believe all that stuff you hear. Teachers and parents just say all that to scare us.

Christy's thoughts: What do I do? It does look like fun. If I don't I may spoil everyone's fun.

Andrew: It'll help you lighten up, Christy.

Eric: How about it? Gonna give it a try?

Finish the role play to show what Christy thinks and how she delays. Have Andrew and Eric pressure her. Show how Heather gives her peer support to say no.

☐ Possible Delay Tactics

You could say:	**You could:**
Maybe later.	Pretend you didn't hear the offer.
Not right now.	Drop something.
Sorry, I have to go.	Take the cigarette and just hold it.
Hey, look what Sam's doing.	Pass it on to someone else.
I have to think about that.	Pretend you lost something and have to find it.
Not tonight - I've got a sore throat.	Go to the restroom.
Not tonight, I just got over the flu.	
I have to leave, be right back.	
Big test tomorrow (or big game tomorrow).	
Not now, I'm busy.	

☐ Saying No Tactics — *Quiz* ☐

Read the situations below and write the response you would use to handle the situation. Decide for each situation whether it would be best to say no, delay, fog or use broken record.

1. A friend tries to talk you into going for a ride with his/her older brother. You don't really trust the brother and think you shouldn't go but you don't want to hurt your friend's feelings.

Your response: _____

_____

_____

2. You're at your house with three friends. Your parents will be gone for several hours. One friend has brought some marijuana and it is being passed around. Everyone is smoking it.

Your response: _____

_____

_____

3. Think of a situation where you might have difficulty saying no to a friend. Describe the situation and write your response.

Situation: _____

_____

_____

Your response: _____

_____

_____

Lesson 7: Positive Self-Talk

Synopsis

Lesson 7 encourages students to use positive self-talk to build self-confidence in difficult situations. It introduces the concept of learning from actions.

Preparation

- Make copies of *Case Study* and *Homework #3* for each student.

Outline of Procedure

Procedure	Time	Material
• Define Negative Self-Talk	10 minutes	None
• Define Positive Self-Talk	10 minutes	*Case Study*
• Practice Changing Negative Self-Talk	15 minutes	*Homework #3*
• Discuss Learning From Our Actions	10 minutes	None

☐ Define Negative Self-Talk — Time: 10 minutes ☐

1. Remind students that in previous lessons they discussed peer pressure—the pressure young teens feel from their friends. They practiced responding to this peer pressure by learning how to say no to friends' requests. However, not all pressure comes from other people. We often create our own internal pressure because we want to be like our friends—or like the popular students. Also we often worry about what other people think about us and put pressure on ourselves to act in a way that we think others will like. Sometimes we increase this internal pressure by putting ourselves down, making negative statements about our looks, our abilities, etc.
2. Ask how many have started to take a test and said something like, "I can't pass this test, I don't know the answers!" Or tried something new and said, "Oh, no, I can't do this." Or felt shy about meeting someone new and said, "She/he probably won't like me." These are all self-putdowns and help us fail.
3. Post a chart with the following statements on the board:
   - I'm too clumsy to be a good skater, why bother?
   - No one will talk to me at the party.
   - I'll never be as good a swimmer as Chris. What's the use of trying?
   - I can't do this math. I'll never get it.
   - I'm shy. I can't make friends.
4. Have students suggest how these negative statements can *help* people fail.

☐ Define Positive Self-Talk — Time: 10 minutes ☐

5. Ask students to suggest how negative statements can be changed into positive ones. For example:
   - It looks like fun. I think I'll try. It won't matter if I fall down.
   - I'll find someone to talk to. Everyone else is probably feeling just as shy as I am.
   - I don't have to be great at it to have fun. I'll practice and keep getting better.
   - I've learned harder things than this. I can do it.
   - I've made friends before so I'm not too shy.
6. Distribute *Case Study* and read with class.
7. Ask students what Christy was saying to herself in this situation. Was it a self-putdown (negative statement about self) or positive self-talk (positive statement about self)? Ask how positive vs. negative self-talk might have affected her feelings about handling the situation.
8. Remind them that self-putdowns help people fail while positive self-talk helps people achieve what they want.
9. Generate a list of positive messages, such as "I'm OK." "I can do it." "This is my choice, not theirs." "I have the courage to do this."

☐ Practice Changing Negative Self-Talk — Time: 15 minutes ☐

10. Explain to students that positive self-talk will be especially helpful to them when they are in situations that involve saying no to marijuana. Distribute worksheets and have students work in pairs to complete.
11. Reconvene and discuss. Point out that the important thing about self-talk is to make a statement that helps you feel confident and sure of your ability to handle a situation.
12. Have students take their worksheets home to discuss with a friend or family member. The homework assignment will give them a chance to identify some negative self-talk they give themselves and change it to positive self-talk. Clarify the directions for *Homework #3.*
13. Suggest to students that identifying and changing negative self-putdowns to positive self-talk can help them stay in control of their lives. Controlling negative thoughts can give one power to stay in charge of his/her life in the same way that saying no does.

☐ Discuss Learning From Our Actions — Time: 10 minutes ☐

14. Suggest to students that people, young and old, do not always make the best decisions about how to handle a situation. So it's worthwhile to review our actions and decide whether they were the best way we could have handled the situation. In other words, did the action help us or hurt us?
15. Explain to students that in reviewing our actions we look at what we did and decide:
    - Did I make the best choice?
    - If not, what alternative might have been better?
    - What can I learn from the experience?

    Write these questions on the board.
16. Model this step by briefly describing the actions you recently took in making a decision. Answer the questions based on your decision. It is preferable to model an action that proved not to be the best.
17. Have students think of something they've done lately that didn't turn out well and ask themselves the questions.
18. Have 3-4 students describe their actions and answer the questions.

☐ Lesson Summary

When students have finished, explain that even if our actions were not the best possible, we can learn from them. Because we can learn from all the things we do, we shouldn't put ourselves down when they don't turn out well. They can be "lessons we've learned" instead of mistakes. Then we should give ourselves a positive message about what we learned. Model giving yourself a positive message, i.e., "I'm proud of myself because I learned that..." Have students write themselves a positive message about the lesson they learned.

Christy's Chance — Case Study

Christy has gotten a bit part in a movie. Just an hour before she's to go in front of the camera, Christy finds out that her scene is with the star of the film. Christy becomes very nervous and her cousin Heather takes her for a walk to calm her down.

While they're walking, Heather takes a joint from her pocket and suggests Christy have some to relax.

"Oh, I don't think so," said Christy. "I don't know what it might do."

Heather lit the joint and smoked some. Christy was thinking maybe she'd just have a teeny bit.

"You sure you don't want some?" Heather asked. "It's really relaxing."

Christy hesitated. Just a little bit might help, she thought. So I don't totally fall apart in front of the camera.

Heather started to put out the joint.

☐ Making Negative Self-Talk Positive — *Homework #3* ☐

For each negative self-statement on the top write a positive self-statement on the bottom.

negative 1. I won't look cool if I don't use marijuana.

positive 1. _____

_____

negative 2. Maybe someone will talk to me if I offer them a joint.

positive 2. _____

_____

negative 3. If I say no to my friends, they won't like me.

positive 3. _____

_____

negative 4. I'd better have a joint. Everyone else is smoking.

positive 4. _____

_____

After you've completed this section in class, share it with a friend or family member and complete the second part of *Homework #3*.

☐ Making Negative Self-Talk Positive (Continued) *Homework #3* ☐

Describe to your friend how negative self-talk can make it more difficult to say no to pressures to use marijuana. Read the worksheet and discuss the positive messages you have written.

With your friend's help, make up two more negative self-statements you might make to yourself with the alternative positive self-statements to match.

negative 1. _____

_____.

positive 1. _____

_____.

negative 2. _____

_____.

positive 2. _____

_____.

My friend _____ and I have read and discussed the worksheet.
(friend's name)

He /she has agreed to help me use positive self-statements instead of negative self-putdowns.

_____ _____

Friend's signature Student's signature

Lesson 8: Saying No Role Plays - Part 1

Synopsis

Lesson 8 provides an opportunity for students to use their acting abilities in order to practice the saying no skills they have learned.

Preparation

- Select two students who will read the *Model Role Play* with you in class. Give them time to practice reading their parts.
- Make three copies of the *Model Role Play* and copies of the *Skills Checklist* for each student.
- Post the charts from previous lessons:
  - Reasons Why. . .Charts (Lesson 1)
  - Guidelines for Clear No Statements (Lesson 3)
  - Fogging Words (Lesson 5)
  - Delay Tactics (Lesson 6)

Outline of Procedure

Procedure	Time	Material
• Discuss Homework #3	5 minutes	Completed Homework #3
• Introduce Role Play	15 minutes	*Model Role Play* *Skills Checklist*
• Prepare Role Plays	25 minutes	Charts from Previous Lessons

☐ Discuss *Homework #3* — Time: 5 minutes ☐

1. Ask students for general feedback about the assignment. Was it helpful? Did they find it easy or difficult?
2. Tell them you'll be helping them change negative self-talk to positive self-talk as it occurs in class.

☐ Introduce Role Play — Time: 15 minutes ☐

3. Sometime before the session, select two students to read the *Model Role Play* with you in class. Give them time to practice reading their parts.
4. Explain that students will be working in groups developing role plays. They can then practice using the skills they've learned during this unit. Tell them that first two students will help you role play a character using the saying no tactics. Ask students to watch the role play to identify the saying no tactics.
5. Distribute the *Skills Checklist* and explain that they should check the skill being used when they observe it.
6. Describe the roles in the situation. Explain that some students will play the role of the inner thoughts going on in the character's head. These will illustrate all the pressures to use and not use marijuana.
7. Enact the role play. Have the "thoughts" stand behind the character they are representing.
8. Have the class identify the saying no tactics used, referring to their checklists. Ask them to suggest how the other saying no tactics might have been used. Have volunteers act them out while you provide the pressure appropriate to require the other tactics.
9. Ask students to keep their checklist for use in Lesson 9.
10. Explain to students that this role play can be a model for them. They can use it to develop a role play illustrating saying no skills.
11. Ask the class to suggest some situations where these skills might be needed. List these situations on the board as ideas for their role plays.

Prepare Role Plays — Time: 25 minutes

12. Divide the class into groups of 4-5. Have them develop role plays using all the appropriate information, tactics and skills they know. Tell them they can use 3-5 people to act out the roles. Suggest 1 person play the character being pressured, 1 or 2 people play the peers applying pressure, and 1 or 2 people play the character's thoughts. Draw their attention to the charts and lists they developed in previous lessons. Suggest they use these lists to help them finish their role plays.
13. Give them the rest of the class period to prepare.

Lesson Summary

Before students leave class, remind them that they will have a few minutes in Lesson 9 to get their role play ready to act out in front of the class.

Saying No — *Model Role Play*

Christy and Eric have walked away from the rest of the kids at Hawk's Point and are sitting by the lake talking. Christy is beginning to feel comfortable with Eric. She hopes he likes her. Eric takes a joint out of his pocket and lights it.

Eric: You want to share this with me?

Christy's thoughts: Oh, no. He has pot. And I don't want to smoke it. I have to think.

Christy: What did you say? I guess I was thinking about something else.

Eric: You want to share this with me?

Christy's thoughts: If I say yes he may like me more. He doesn't look like he wants to hang out with someone who's boring. I'll have to stall him so I can think.

Christy: I never smoke on moonlit nights. I get dangerous.

Eric: It's pretty good for local weed.

Christy: Local weed?

Christy's thoughts: I don't trust that stuff. I'd better get out of this situation.

Eric: Yeah, they grow it in the hills behind the lake. Here, try it.

Christy: (Takes the joint and holds it.) How long have you lived around here?

Eric: I was born here. Can't wait to get out.

Christy: I like it here. (Passes the joint back to him.)

Eric: Haven't you smoked grass before?

Christy's thoughts: Well, I might as well be honest. I don't want to hang out with him if I have to smoke pot to make him like me.

Christy: No, I never have.

Eric: Wow. I don't believe it. Are you chicken to try it?

Saying No — *Model Role Play* (Continued)

Christy: **Maybe so. I just don't want all that ugly tar in my lungs.**

Eric: I thought you city girls were more sophisticated.

Christy: **Whatever.**

Eric: (Laughs.) You're too much! Last chance. Sure you don't want to try it?

Christy: **No, thanks. I like being with you but I really don't want to start smoking pot. Let's take a walk along the lake.**

Christy's thoughts: He may not want to hang out with me but he doesn't seem to hate me either. And I feel better being honest.

Saying No — *Skills Checklist*

Groups	1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Saying No						
a. Clear no statement						
b. Friendly voice						
c. I statement						
d. Different activity						
2. Broken record						
a. Clear statement						
b. I statement						
3. Fogging						
4. Delaying						
5. Positive Self-Talk						

Lesson 9: Saying No Role Plays - Part 2

Synopsis

Lesson 9 will provide students with an opportunity to practice saying no tactics in familiar situations.

Preparation

- Make extra copies of *Skills Checklist.*

Outline of Procedure

Procedure	Time	Material
• Prepare for Role Plays	10 minutes	*Skills Checklist* from Lesson 8
• Give Role Plays	35 minutes	None

☐ Prepare for Role Plays — Time: 10 minutes ☐

1. Ask students to return to their small groups and take 5-7 minutes to rehearse their role play.
2. Have students refer to their *Skills Checklists* from Lesson 8. Review how to record the tactics and skills they see demonstrated.

☐ Give Role Plays — Time: 35 minutes ☐

3. Have groups take turns role playing their completed script. After each role play, ask students to identify the tactics and skills used. Help the class give the role players feedback on their skills.

☐ Lesson Summary

4. Remind students that these skills may be difficult to use in real life. Reassure students that they have the information to develop confidence and skill in using all the tactics they've been taught. It will just take time and practice.
5. Ask students which skills they think they'll use most; which skills they've already used.
6. Remind students that one of the most important aspects of using these skills is self-confidence. It's important that they continue to be aware of negative messages they give themselves and to change them into positive ones.
7. Remind them that no single skill works all the time, but now they have a choice.
8. Explain to students that there are resources in the community to help young people who have a problem with substance abuse in their homes. Assure them that you or other appropriate school personnel can assist them in seeking help.
9. Though avoiding substance use can be hard, students should be assured that they now have increased skills to help them in a situation that involves marijuana.

Appendix

Curriculum Options

Saying No to Marijuana can be expanded to cover alcohol and tobacco by incorporating an additional reading component before Lesson 4 and Lesson 7. To exercise this option, you will need copies of *Saying No to Alcohol* with *Serena's Secret* and *Alcohol: The Real Story;* and *Saying No to Tobacco* with *Danny's Dilemma* and *Tobacco: The Real Story.*

The curriculum outline below offers the suggested procedure.

Reading Component to accompany *Saying No to Marijuana*
Flexible time: 1 to 5 days (depending on student ability and in-class or homework reading time).

Options:

1. Read both informational and interactive books in class. Conduct a feedback discussion after each book.
   Classtime: 1 to 2 days--informational book, *Marijuana: The Real Story*
   2 to 3 days--interactive book, *Christy's Chance*
2. Read both books as homework. Conduct class feedback discussions after each book.
   Classtime: 1 day--informational book
   1 day--interactive book
3. Read only one book (interactive or informational) in class or as homework and discuss.
   Classtime: 1 to 3 days

Use daily lessons from *Saying No to Marijuana.*

Lesson 1: Facts and Pressures

— Review Information	15 minutes
— Introduce Case Study	15 minutes
— Discuss Reasons Why	10 minutes
— Introduce Homework	5 minutes

Lesson 2: Saying No

— Discuss Homework	5 minutes
— Develop Peer Support Concept	10 minutes
— Identifying Clear No Statements	5 minutes
— Model Saying No	5 minutes
— Practice Saying No	20 minutes

Lesson 3: The Broken Record

— Define Broken Record	10 minutes
— Practice Broken Record	20 minutes
— Review Techniques	15 minutes

Reading Component to accompany *Saying No to Alcohol*
Flexible time: 1 to 5 days (depending on student ability and in-class or homework reading time).

Options:

1. Read both informational and interactive books in class. Conduct a feedback discussion after each book.
   Classtime: 1 to 2 days--informational book, *Alcohol: The Real Story,*
   2 to 3 days--interactive book, *Serena's Secret*
2. Read both books as homework. Conduct class feedback discussions after each book.
   Classtime: 1 day--informational book
   1 day--interactive book
3. Read only one book (interactive or informational) in class or as homework and discuss.
   Classtime: 1 to 3 days

Use daily lessons from *Saying No to Alcohol.*

Lesson 4: Saying No Practice

— Review Clear No Statements	15 minutes
— Review Broken Record	15 minutes
— Reinforce Reasons Not to Use	15 minutes

Lesson 5: Fogging

— Discuss Homework #2	10 minutes
— Define Fogging	10 minutes
— Practice Fogging	25 minutes

Lesson 6: Delaying

— Define Delaying	10 minutes
— Practice Delaying	20 minutes
— Review	15 minutes

Reading Component to accompany *Saying No to Tobacco.*
Flexible time: 1 to 5 days (depending on student ability and in-class or homework reading time).

Options:

1. Read both informational and interactive books in class. Conduct a feedback discussion after each book.
   Classtime: 1 to 2 days--informational book, *Tobacco: The Real Story*
   2 to 3 days--interactive book, *Danny's Dilemma*
2. Read both books as homework. Conduct class feedback discussions after each book.
   Classtime: 1 day--informational book
   1 day--interactive book
3. Read only one book (interactive or informational) in class or as homework and discuss.
   Classtime: 1 to 3 days

Use daily lessons from *Saying No to Tobacco.*

Lesson 7: Positive Self-Talk

— Define Negative Self-Talk	10 minutes
— Define Positive Self-Talk	10 minutes
— Practice Changing Negative Self-Talk	15 minutes
— Discuss Learning From Our Actions	10 minutes

Lesson 8: Saying No Role Plays

— Discuss Homework #3	5 minutes
— Introduce Role Play Assignment	15 minutes
— Prepare Role Plays	25 minutes

Lesson 9: Saying No Role Plays

— Prepare for Role Plays	10 minutes
— Give Role Plays	35 minutes

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Saying No To Marijuana is the teacher's guide to an innovative new approach to preventing the use of marijuana by preadolescents. Used in conjunction with the interactive fiction book *Christy's Chance* and the informational book *Marijuana: The Real Story*, *Saying No to Marijuana* provides teachers with a structured sequence of classroom activities to help young people resist peer pressure and say no to marijuana.

Based on a cognitive-behavioral approach to education, *Saying No to Marijuana* maintains that young people must have access to accurate information, be able to "personalize" this information in order to make it a part of their lives, and be able to apply this knowledge to their personal decision-making process. They must also be given opportunities to practice their communication skills, particularly the assertiveness and refusal skills necessary to implement decisions and resist peer and social pressure to use marijuana.

Saying No to Marijuana includes:

--Curriculum objectives
--Background information about marijuana
--Teaching activities including case studies, simple role plays and small group discussions
--Handouts and worksheets
--Homework assignments
--Optional activities

Saying No to Marijuana is part of the IT'S YOUR CHOICE series of substance abuse prevention education materials published by Network Publications. Other titles include *Saying No to Alcohol* to be used with the student books *Serena's Secret* and *Alcohol: The Real Story*, and *Saying No to Tobacco* to be used with the student books *Danny's Dilemma* and *Tobacco: The Real Story*.

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